

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00
SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00
OMB-01 ABF-01 ACDA-12 /137 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TNILES:HM
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
IO/UNP:PSBRIDGES
AF/S:JNACH
ARA/AND:VGRAHAM
NEA/ARP:JZIOLKOWSKI
NEA/INS:ATHIBAULT
EUR/NE:RSTHOMPSON

-----025546 311801Z /44

P R 311745Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
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AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192354

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, UNSC

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SOVIET POSITION ON UNTAG FINANCING

1. DURING JULY 27 SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE, SOVIETS AND CZECHS SERVED NOTICE THAT THEY DID NOT INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN UNTAG FINANCING. SOVIET REP SUGGESTED THAT COSTS SHOULD BE BORNE BY THOSE COUNTRIES, (I.E. THE MEMBERS OF THE WESTERN CONTACT GROUP) WHICH "PROPOSE MAINTAINING SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IN NAMIBIA." CZECHOSLOVAK REP MADE FLAT STATEMENT THAT CSSR DID NOT INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN FINANCING.

2. FROM THE BEGINNING OF OUR CONSIDERATION OF UN ROLE IN NAMIBIA TRANSITION PROCESS, WE HAVE PROCEEDED ON ASSUMPTION THAT IN VIEW OF SPECIAL UN RESPONSIBILITY FOR NAMIBIA, THE COSTS OF UNTAG SHOULD BE COVERED ON BASIS OF REGULAR BUDGETARY ASSESSMENT. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT SOVIET POSITION OPENS WAY FOR SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TO OPT OUT OF UNTAG FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, WITH NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS NOT ONLY FOR UNTAG OPERATION ITSELF BUT FOR BROADER QUESTION OF FINANCING PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, PARTICULARLY WHERE JUSTIFICATION FOR UN ROLE IS LESS CLEAR THAN IN CASE OF
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NAMIBIA.

3. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES CONTACT GROUP SHOULD DEVELOP PLAN FOR PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE SOVIETS TO PARTICIPATE IN UNTAG FINANCING. INITIAL APPROACHES TO SOVIETS IN NEW YORK COULD BE USEFUL, AND WE SUGGEST THAT USUN AND OTHER CONTACT GROUP MISSIONS RAISE MATTER WITH TROYANOVSKIY AND EXPRESS OUR STRONG DISAPPOINTMENT WITH SOVIET POSITION.

4. IN VIEW SENSITIVITY OF SOVIETS TO AFRICAN VIEWS ON NAMIBIA (SOVIETS ABSTAINED ON BASIC UNTAG RESOLUTION, THUS ALLOWING IT TO PASS, ON GROUNDS THAT AFRICANS AND SWAPO SUPPORTED IT), WE BELIEVE THAT KEY AFRICAN STATES MIGHT HAVE SOME INFLUENCE WITH SOVIETS ON THIS MATTER. ACCORDINGLY, CONTACT GROUP COULD APPROACH FRONT LINE STATES AND NIGERIA AND RAISE SUBJECT OF UNTAG FINANCING, POINTING OUT POSITION TAKEN BY SOVIETS AND CZECHS DURING COUNCIL DEBATE AND SUGGESTING THAT AFRICAN EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION WITH SOVIET POSITION COULD HAVE POSITIVE IMPACT IN MOSCOW.

5. IN CASE OF OTHER SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, WE BELIEVE THAT CONTACT GROUP SHOULD MAKE APPROACHES IN CARACAS, LA PAZ, KUWAIT AND NEW DELHI. IN THESE APPROACHES WE WOULD ADVISE FOREIGN MINISTRIES OF PROBLEM ON UNTAG FINANCING DUE TO SOVIET ATTITUDE AND REQUEST SUPPORT OF HOST GOVERNMENTS WHEN ISSUE ARISES IN SECURITY COUNCIL. IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE WHICH SOVIETS MAY ATTACH TO INDIA'S POSITION, OUR APPROACH IN NEW DELHI MIGHT SUGGEST THAT INDIANS RAISE MATTER WITH SOVIETS.

6. NORDIC STATES, PARTICULARLY FINLAND, MAY ALSO BE PREPARED TO BE HELPFUL ON THIS SUBJECT. DURING MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY (IO) MAYNES LAST SEPTEMBER, CONFIDENTIAL

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FINISH UN PERMREP PASTINEN STRESSED THAT NORDIC STATES FELT VERY STRONGLY THAT UNTAG SHOULD BE FINANCED AS PART OF REGULAR OR SPECIAL ASSESSMENT (SEE STATE 224143). IN VIEW OF THIS POSITION, CONTACT GROUP EMBASSIES IN HELSINKI MIGHT RAISE THIS MATTER WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY AND SUGGEST THAT FINNS OR OTHER NORDICS MAKE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN TO SOVIETS. IN VIEW OF LIKELIHOOD THAT FINNS AND POSSIBLY OTHER NORDICS WILL MAKE TROOP CONTRIBUTION AND/OR SUPPLY PART OF CIVILIAN COMPONENT OF UNTAG, WE BELIEVE NORDICS WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL REASON FOR ASSURING THAT UNTAG FINANCING IS ON FIRM BASIS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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